

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) An electromagnetic contactor, ~~characterized in having comprising:~~

a main contact point for a plurality of phases, ~~consisting of including~~ a pair of fixed contacts opposed to each other and a movable contact for bridging the space therebetween, wherein the neighboring main contact points have therebetween an interphase barrier, and

an emission path for arc gas ~~caused~~ created when the main contact point is opened or closed, ~~the emission path having~~ has, at the middle thereof, a concave section ~~provided~~ at the inner wall face of the interphase barrier.

2. (currently amended) An electromagnetic contactor according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the concave section consists of a narrow groove perpendicular to the emission path of the arc gas.

3. (currently amended) An electromagnetic contactor according to Claim 2; ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the inner wall face of the interphase barrier at the upstream side of the arc gas emission path is recessed from the inner wall face at downstream side so as to sandwich the concave section.